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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/971,083	10/03/2001	David E. Schomaker	2316.1404US01	2100

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EXAMINER

PATEL, DHIRUBHAIR

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2831

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/971,083

Applicant(s)

SCHOMAKER ET AL.

Examiner

DHIRU R PATEL

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2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Part III DETAILED ACTION

#### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, a transverse extension recited in claims 1, 8, 16 and 21, and the cover mountable in the second position the second open ends are closed recited in claim 8 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). Examiner suggests showing reference number for a transverse extension. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance. No new matter should be entered.

Applicant is responsible for showing reference number for claimed invention.

2. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.

**Applicant is responsible for reviewing the entire specification for every feature of the invention specified in the claims and provide drawings as required and claimed subject matter should be supported by the specification.**

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***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 1-7 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 16, insert -- of the cavity -- before " remains" instead for improved clarity.

Appropriate correction is required.

***Specification***

4. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

The following are not adequately supported by the specification:

In claim 1 line 13, "a transverse extension".

In claim 8 line 5, " first and second parallel channels".

In claim 8 lines 6-7, "a transverse extension".

In claim 16 line 12, "a transverse extension".

In claim 21 lines 16-17, "a transverse extension".

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***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1 - 23 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the specification objection, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reasons for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-23 are the inclusion therein, in combination as currently claimed, of the limitation of when the cover is mounted in the first position the transverse extension closes off the first open end of the cavity and the second open end of the cavity remains open, and when the cover is mounted in the second position the transverse extension of the cover closes off the second open end of the cavity and the first open end remains open (for claims 1-7, and 16-20), and the cover mountable on one of two selectable positions wherein in the first position the first open ends are closed and in the second position the second open ends are closed (for claims 8-15), and the cover has a transverse extension to close off the other of the first and second open ends of the cavity (for claims 21-23).

The previously listed limitation is neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

***Other prior art cited***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Pham, Massey et al, Ford et al, and Blackmon et al disclose a housing similar to applicant's claimed invention.

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***Contact information***

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dhiru Patel whose telephone number is (703) 308 -3748. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays- Thursdays from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard be reached at 703-308-3682. The fax number for this Group is 703-305-3431. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Dhiru Patel  
Patent Examiner  
Group Art Unit 2831  
June 10, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dhiru Patel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name and date.